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Sent: Friday, May 19, 2017 6:57 PM
To: Augsburger, Leonard
Subject: What's new at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc.

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Newsletter #17:

What's New at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc.

Hope you all had a nice week thus far. Mine was filled with Spring auction fever. Things are starting to really heat up. Remember with any of the below auctions that I am usually free to speak about reasonable bid levels. You should just send me an email to let me know when it is convenient to talk. I enjoy giving advice on realistic bidding levels so please use this service I provide. I'm very happy to assist.

Sincona May 16, 2017 and Nomos May 17, 2017 (Zürich, Switzerland)

I heard mixed reviews for the Byzantine segment of the Sincona auction. I phone bid with Arne Kirsch, one of the principals at Sincona and the current President of the IAPN (as an aside I was on the board of the IAPN when I was still with Harlan J. Berk Ltd. and I am hoping to rejoin the organization and get back to business on the board as soon as they let me!). Arne was less than thrilled with the results of the auction and it seemed to me that things were literally being given away. Later on I spoke with a customer who said that he had horrible luck getting things at the auction. For myself, I jumped on the computer and bid on eight coins (successfully winning all of them) for my stock.

Nomos, on the other hand, seemed to be very strong. This was a departure from the previous auctions from Nomos that I had attended that had mixed results. I was pleased to hear (since I was a phone bidder) such a lively crowd.

Numismatik Lanz München May 23, 2017 (Munich, Germany)

Dr. Lanz has sent me a few more catalogs so if you want one just send me an email. His sale is just around the corner and I will phone bid if anyone is interested in lots from that auction. Please just let me know soon!

Morton & Eden – May 24, 2017 (London, England)

I've secured phone bidding for the entire 37 coin auction. It seemed silly to be on and off the phone since the auction will likely be over shortly after it starts. I'm eager to see if coins stay at a reasonable levels or if there are hidden reserves. After some discussion with a few friends in London that are in the know it seems unlikely that there are reserves on the coins. I wait with baited breath! Please do let me know if you need me to bid for you.

NAC Auction – May 29-30, 2017 (Zürich, Switzerland)

Just as with Morton & Eden, I have secured a phone line for any lots that customers want me to bid on. Many of you have already started giving me your bids. I'm appreciative of any advance notice you can give me. It just makes it easier for me to execute your bids without error. I'm very excited to see the outcome and I hope some of my customers get the coins they want.

Hess Divo – May 31, 2017 (Zürich, Switzerland)

I am set with phone bidding for Hess Divo as well. Please let me know if you need me to bid for you and I will be happy to do so.

Pre-Long Beach Auction, Goldberg - June 6-7, 2017 (Los Angeles, CA)

I just received the two catalogs for the Goldberg auction one of them is another large Judean collection on offer, The Brody Family Collection, Part II. There have been a few dedicated Judean catalogs since the Shoshana Collection from Heritage some years back. This catalog looks varied and interesting with ancient, modern, stamps, antiquities from Judea. I didn't get any extra catalogs so please refer to Sixbid or Numisbids for the catalog.

I don't expect to attend the auction since I will have family in town but I am happy to phone bid.

Coin of the Week <http://www.shannaschmidt.com/coin-of-the-week/>

The coin this week is a lovely tetradrachm from Olynthus.

Macedonia. Olynthus. c. 373-370 BC. Tetradrachm, 14.32g (24mm, 10h). Laureate head of Apollo right / X-A-Λ-KIΔ-EΩN Cithara.

Pedigree: Purchased at Crédit de la Bourse, Paris, March 1990. From the René Baron Collection

Price: \$12,000

References: Robinson & Clement V, 130 (A80-P111). BMC 10. SNG ANS 496-497. AMNG III/II, 85, 8, pl. 17, 12. Boston 582 (same dies).

Grade: Toned with very sharp strike and detail. A minor abrasion on the cheek

A Celebration of Music

Fearful of Athens and the growing power of the Macedonian Kingdom, Olynthus and the other free cities of the Chalcidice banded together in 432 BC, forming the Chalcidian League as a

defensive coalition. Athens failed to break up this union due to its focus on the Peloponnesian War and its general disinterest in the region, helping solidify the strength of the League.

The capital was placed at Olynthus on a peninsula of northern Ancient Greece, on the shores of the Aegean Sea. The name Olynthus originates from the Greek “olunthos”, a fig which matures early, as this fruit was plentiful in the area.

The Chalcadian League was at the height of its power in the late fifth century BC but soon became the center of conflict. In 393 BC, Amyntas III of Macedonia was under attack by the Illyrians and temporarily transferred territory to Olynthus for protection. When he regained control, the League refused to return his lands and he called upon Sparta to intervene. At the same time, there was unrest in the League and some members claimed that they were being forced to remain in the League against their will.

This forced Sparta to act and after a lengthy war, the cities were subjugated by Sparta in 379 BC, with their power divided. Despite being summarily defeated, the Chalcadian League quickly began to regain power, which frightened Philip II of Macedon. To ensure his continued success in the region, Philip proactively attacked Olynthus, destroying the city in 348 BC and disbanding the League permanently.

This coin was minted at Olynthus during the period in which the Chalcadian League was under Spartan oversight but regaining strength. They minted their own silver coinage on the Macedonian standard, functioning as legal tender within all cities of the League.

The overall design elements remained consistent but style varied substantially over time. This coin’s depiction of the head of Apollo is a superb example of die engraving, remarkable for the strength and beauty of its style. These heads served as the predecessor for the portraits on the gold staters of Philip II.

The reverse depicts a professional version of the lyre, a kithara. As opposed to the standard lyre, which was predominately used as a folk instrument, the kithara was reserved for skilled musicians called kitharodes and the singers of Greek epic poetry. The name “guitar” is derived from the Greek kithara.

The kithara was an attribute of Apollo and symbolized wisdom. It resonates in its box-shaped body which holds two parallel arms connected by a crossbar. Depending on the type and desired complexity, up to a dozen strings could be attached. It was played vertically, plucked with a plectrum in the right hand with the left hand damping the strings.

According to mythology, the kithara was invented accidentally by the Greek messenger god Hermes, Apollo’s brother. Mere hours after being born, Hermes immediately embarked upon a journey to steal oxen from his brother who was away from his herd.

During his trip, Hermes brushed against a turtle shell on the ground, and thought to stretch seven strings across it. He plucked them and was instantly able to play exquisitely, creating the kithara.

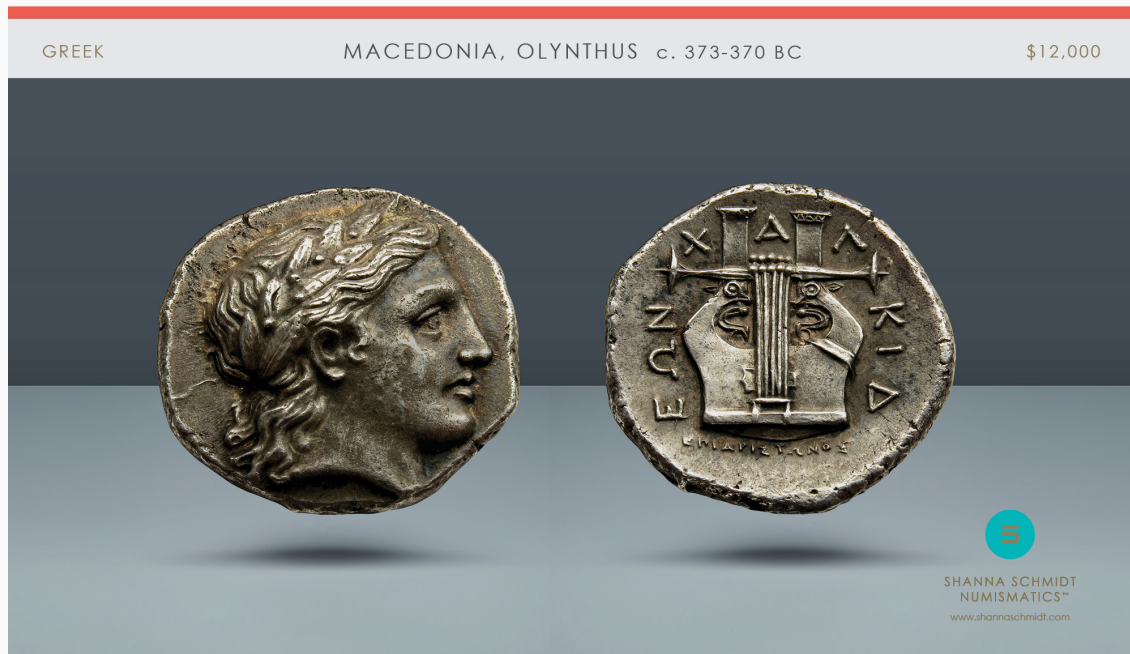
After reaching the herd, Hermes attempted to steal fifty oxen but Apollo discovered the theft and the brothers began to quarrel, only to be interrupted by their father Zeus. To repay his brother, Hermes offered Apollo his kithara. Having only ever heard a standard three string lyre before, Apollo was so enthralled by the beautiful sound that he not only forgave Hermes, he granted him full dominion over all flocks and herds.

Hermes agreed and formally became the god of herdsmen, swearing to never steal the kithara. Apollo fully devoted himself to the art of music and was said to bring stability and order into chaos with his playing.

If you are interested in this coin please email shanna@shannaschmidt.com

If you are interested in any other coins I have available please visit my website www.shannaschmidt.com

Until next week!
Shanna



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